

## Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 MCT-01

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EURE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /082 W

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O 271700Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL NICE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1190

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LYON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS NICE 442

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, FR

SUBJECT: CONTINUED VIOLENCE IN CORSICA

REF: PARIS 26401, NICE 414 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY - ALTHOUGH THE VAST MAJORITY OF CORSICANS ARE UNANIMOUS IN THEIR CONDEMNATION OF THE VIOLENT ACTS PERPETRATED BY SMALL EXTREMIST GROUPS, THE ACTUAL SITUATION APPEARS TO BE WORSENING. TWO VINEYARDS, OWNED BY "PIED NOIR" FARMERS, WERE DESTROYED BY VANDALS ON SEPTEMBER 20TH - A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO HARVEST TIME - AT GHISONACCIA AND AGHIONE. ON SEPTEMBER 26TH, AT BUSTANICO, NEAR CORTE, THE BODIES OF TWO SHEPHERDS WERE DISCOVERED. THE MEN, XAVIER AND PASQUINI RUGGIERI, APPARENTLY DIED FOLLOWING A VIOLENT STRUGGLE. AUTOPSY REPORTS SHOW THAT THE BROTHERS WERE SHOT AND THEN STABBED WITH BAYONNETS. THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION IS BEING BLAMED BY THE LOCAL POPULATIONS FOR THE DOUBLE MURDER AND VIOLENT

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DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE RESULTED. END SUMMARY.

2. EMOTION IN BUSTANICO, UPON DISCOVERY OF THE BODIES OF THE RUGGIERI S BROTHERS, WAS INTENSE. THE LOCAL POPULATION HAD ALREADY BEEN AWARE OF FOREIGN LEGION DESERTERS IN THE AREA WHO HAD BEEN ON THE LOOSE FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS AND WERE APPARENTLY ARMED AND CONSIDERED DANGEROUS. FORTY-EIGHT HOURS PRIOR TO THE DOUBLE MURDER, A ROBBERY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN THE TOWN BUT THE BANDITS HAD ESCAPED. AMONG THE STOLEN ARTICLES WAS A WRIST-WATCH, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND AT THE SCENE OF THE MURDERS. SHORTLY AFTER THE DISCOVERY OF THE BODIES, A POLICE NET WAS THROWN AROUND THE AREA AND AN INTENSE SEARCH INITIATED.

3. A FEW HOURS FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY OF THE BODIES, A DEMONSTRATION TOOK PLACE BEFORE THE SOUS-PREFECTURE IN CORTE, WHERE LEADERS MET WITH THE SOUS-PREFET, MR. SUSINI. THEIR REQUESTS INCLUDED, IN ADDITION TO INCREASE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, THE CONFINEMENT OF THE MEN OF THE FOREIGN LEGION TO THEIR BARRACKS UNTIL THE MURDERERS HAVE BEEN APPREHENDED. THEY ALSO DEMANDED THAT THE FOREIGN LEGION, WHOSE HEADQUARTERS ARE LOCATED IN CORTE, BE REMOVED FROM THE ISLAND.

4. FOLLOWING THE MEETING WITH THE SOUS-PREFET, MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL TOWN COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY FORMED A "VIGILANCE COMMITTEE" COMPRISED OF TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND LEADERS OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS. THE COMMITTEE S ELECTED PRESIDENT, DR.ETIENNE MORACCHINI, CONSEILLER GENERAL OF BUSTANICO, REQUESTED THE ENTIRE POPULATIONS OF CORSICA, INCLUDING POLITICIANS, ALL POLITICAL MOVEMENTS AND GROUPS AS WELL AS THE UNIONS, TO JOIN IN THEIR EFFORTS TO RID CORSICA OF THE FOREIGN LEGION.

5. LATER IN THE SAME AFTERNOON, THE CROWD BEFORE THE SOUS-PREFECTURE BLOCKED THE ACCESS OF VEHICLES BELONGING TO THE STATE MEDICAL EXAMINER AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PROCUREUR DE LA REPUBLIQUE AS THEY WERE ON THE WAY TO THE HOSPITAL MORGUE TO WITNESS THE REQUIRED AUTOPSY. POLICE WERE UNABLE TO CLEAR THE ROAD AND THE OFFICIALS WERE OBLIGED TO PROCEED TO THE HOSPITAL ON FOOT.

6. ALL MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN LEGION WERE CONFINED TO THEIR QUARTERS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK-END.

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7. LATER SUNDAY AFTERNOON, AS THE MILITARY DRIVER OF GENERAL FOUREAU ( FOREIGN LEGION COMMANDER OF THE FRENCHLEGIONIN AUBAGNE) ATTEMPTED TO DRIVE THROUGH THE DEMONSTRATORS IN CROTE, HETS SHOT AT POINT-BLANK RANGE BY SOME ONE IN THE CROWD. HE ESCAPED WITH FACIAL WOUNDS.

8. AT MIDNIGHT OF THE SAME DAY, A BOMB WAS THROWN AT THE VILLA OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 2ND REGIMENT OF THE FOREIGN

LEGION IN CORTE. THERE WERE NO PHYSICAL INJURIES, THE EXPLOSION  
WAS HEARD THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND APPLAUDED BY DEMONSTRATORS  
WHO WERE STILL GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE SOUS-PREFECTURE.

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## Message Attributes

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